

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (withdrawn) A hot melt adhesive composition comprising:
 - (a) greater than about 40 wt% of an ethylene comonomer copolymer composition, the comonomer comprising an α -olefin or mixtures thereof, the polymer composition having a melt index greater than 800 gm-10 min⁻¹; and
 - (b) an effective amount of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than 120°C;wherein the weight ratio of the polymer composition to the resin is greater than about 1:1.
2. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 1 wherein the tackifying resin has a softening point of less than about 125°C.
3. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 1 wherein the polymer composition comprises an ethylene/ C₃ to C₁₈ α -olefin polymer.
4. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 1 wherein ethylene acrylic polymer comprises an ethylene/octene copolymer.
5. (currently amended) A hot melt adhesive composition comprising:
 - (a) greater than about 40 wt% of an ethylene C₃ to C₁₈ α -olefin polymer composition comprising about 8 to 14 wt.-% α -olefin having a melt index greater than 800 gm-10 min⁻¹; and
 - (b) ~~an effective amount~~ about 20 to 40 wt% of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than 125°C;wherein the weight ratio of the polymer composition to the resin is greater than about 1:1.

6. (original) The composition of claim 5 wherein the adhesive additionally comprises about 0.1 to 10 wt.-% of a block polymer and has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

7. (original) The composition of claim 5 wherein the polymer composition has a melt index greater than 950 gm-10 min⁻¹ and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 85°C.

8. (original) The composition of claim 5 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.5:1.

9. (original) The composition of claim 5 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.8:1.

10. (original) The composition of claim 5 wherein the tackifying resin has a softening point of [[less than]] about 127[[5]] to 145 °C.

11. (canceled)

12. (original) The adhesive of claim 5 wherein polymer comprises is present in the adhesive at a weight ratio of polymer:resin [[to resin]] of at least 2:1.

13. (original) The adhesive of claim 5 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer is present in an amount of at least about 60 wt.-%.

14. (original) The adhesive of claim 13 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer has a melt index greater than 950 gm-10 min⁻¹.

15. (original) The adhesive of claim 13 wherein the resin is present in the adhesive in an amount of 20 to 40 wt%.

16. (original) The adhesive of claim 5 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer comprises a blend of a first ethylene/ α -olefin polymer and a second ethylene/ α -olefin polymer wherein the first has a MI different than the second.

17. (currently amended) The adhesive of claim 5 wherein the adhesive consists essentially of ~~[[42]] 8~~ to ~~[[85]] 14~~ wt% of an ethylene/octene polymer having a melt index of about 850 to 1250 gm-10 min⁻¹ and about 30 to ~~[[5]] 40~~ wt% of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than about 125°C; wherein the weight ratio of the polymer to the resin is greater than about 1:1.

18. (original) The adhesive of claim 5 wherein the adhesive has a viscosity of 2000 cPs to 10⁵ cPs at 150°C the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 85°C.

19. (original) The adhesive of claim 5 wherein the adhesive has a viscosity of 4300 cPs to 7300 cPs at 150°C and a and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

20. (withdrawn) A disposable article comprising a film layer bonded to a non-woven layer using a hot melt construction adhesive, the construction adhesive comprising:

(a) greater than about 40 wt% of an ethylene/C₂ to C₁₀ α -olefin polymer having a melt index greater than 900 gm-10 min⁻¹; and

(b) an effective amount of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than 120°C;

wherein the weight ratio of the polymer to the resin is greater than about 1:1.

21. (withdrawn) The article of claim 20 wherein the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

22. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 20 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.5:1 the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 85°C.

23. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 20 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.8:1.

24. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 20 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer comprises a blend of a first polymer having a melt index different than a second polymer.

25. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 20 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer is present in the adhesive at a weight ratio polymer to resin of at least 2:1.

26. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 20 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer is present in an amount of about 60 to 85 wt%.

27. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 26 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer has a melt index greater than 950 gm-10 min⁻¹.

28. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 26 wherein the resin is present in the adhesive in an amount of 20 to 40 wt%.

29. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 20 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer comprises a blend of a first tackifier and a second tackifier wherein the first has a melting point 5 °C different than the second.

30. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 20 wherein the adhesive consists essentially of 62 to 75 wt% of an ethylene/octene polymer having a melt index of about 850 to 1250 gm-10 min⁻¹ and about 25 to 50 wt% of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than about 125°C; wherein the weight ratio of the polymer to the resin is greater than about 1:1 and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

31. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 20 wherein the adhesive has a viscosity of 4000 to 8000 cP at 150°C and the adhesive has a softening point less than 85°C.

32. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 20 wherein the film comprises a polymer selected from a polyvinyl chloride, a polyolefin or mixtures thereof and the non-woven comprises a synthetic fiber.

33. (withdrawn) A method of assembling a disposable article comprising the steps:

- (a) assembling a film with a non-woven sheet;
- (b) applying an effective amount of a hot melt construction adhesive to the

non-woven sheet to bond the sheet to the film; wherein the construction adhesive comprises:

- (i) greater than about 40 wt% of an ethylene/ α -olefin polymer having a melt index greater than 900; and
- (ii) an effective amount of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than 120°C;

wherein the weight ratio of the polymer to the resin is greater than 1:1 and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

34. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 33 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.5:1 the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 85°C.

35. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 33 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.8:1.

36. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 33 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer has an olefin monomer content of about 25 to 35 wt% and the polymer is present at a weight ratio polymer to resin of at least 2:1.

37. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 33 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer is present in an amount of about 60 to 85 wt%.

38. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 37 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer has a melt index greater than 900-1250 gm-10 min⁻¹.

39. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 37 wherein the resin is present in the adhesive in an amount of 20 to 40 wt%.

40. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 33 wherein the adhesive consists essentially of 62 to 80 wt% of an ethylene/octene polymer having a melt index of about 950 to 1250 gm-10 min⁻¹ and about 20 to 50 wt% of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than about 120°C; wherein the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

41. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 33 wherein the adhesive has a viscosity of 4000 to 8000 cP at 150°C and the adhesive has a softening point less than 85°C.

42. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 33 wherein the film comprises a polymer selected from a polyvinyl chloride, a polyolefin or mixtures thereof and the non-woven comprises a synthetic fiber.

43. (withdrawn) A hot melt adhesive composition comprising:

(a) greater than about 40 wt% of an ethylene comonomer copolymer composition, the comonomer comprising vinyl acetate, an acrylic ester, a methacrylic ester or mixtures thereof, the polymer composition having a melt index greater than 1000; and

(b) an effective amount of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than 120°C;

wherein the weight ratio of the polymer composition to the resin is greater than about 1:1.

44. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 43 wherein the tackifying resin has a softening point of less than about 125°C and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

45. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 43 wherein the polymer composition comprises an ethylene-acrylic polymer.

46. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 43 wherein ethylene acrylic polymer comprises an ethylene/methacrylate copolymer, an ethylene/n-butyl acrylate copolymer or mixtures thereof.

47. (withdrawn) A hot melt adhesive composition comprising:

(a) greater than about 40 wt% of an ethylene vinyl acetate polymer composition having a melt index greater than $1000 \text{ gm-10 min}^{-1}$; and

(b) an effective amount of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than 125°C ;

wherein the weight ratio of the EVA polymer to the resin is greater than about 1:1.

48. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47 wherein the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C .

49. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47 wherein the polymer composition has a melt index greater than $2000 \text{ gm-10 min}^{-1}$ and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 85°C .

50. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.5:1.

51. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.8:1.

52. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 47 wherein the tackifying resin has a softening point of less than about 125°C .

53. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 47 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer composition comprises a first polymer having about 15 to 22 wt% vinyl acetate and a second polymer having about 23 to 28 wt% vinyl acetate, and the resin comprises about 20 to 40 wt% of the adhesive.

54. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 47 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer has a vinyl acetate content of about 25 to 35 wt% vinyl acetate and the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer is present in the adhesive at a weight ratio polymer to resin of at least 2:1.

55. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 47 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer is present in an amount of at least about 60 wt%.

56. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 55 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer has a melt index greater than $2700 \text{ gm-10 min}^{-1}$.

57. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 55 wherein the resin is present in the adhesive in an amount of 20 to 40 wt%.

58. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 47 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer comprises a blend of a first EVA and a second EVA wherein the first EVA has a MI different than the second EVA.

59. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 47 wherein the adhesive consists essentially of 42 to 85 wt% of an ethylene vinyl acetate polymer having a melt index of about 2650 to 3000 gm-10 min^{-1} and about 30 to 50 wt% of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than about 125°C ; wherein the weight ratio of the EVA polymer to the resin is greater than about 1:1 and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C .

60. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 47 wherein the adhesive has a viscosity of 2000 cPs to 10^5 cPs at 150°C and the adhesive has a softening point less than 85°C .

61. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 47 wherein the adhesive has a viscosity of 4300 cPs to 7300 cPs at 150°C .

62. (withdrawn) A disposable article comprising a film layer bonded to a non-woven layer using a hot melt construction adhesive, the construction adhesive comprising:

(a) greater than about 40 wt% of an ethylene vinyl acetate polymer having a melt index greater than 1000 gm-10 min⁻¹; and

(b) an effective amount of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than 120°C;

wherein the weight ratio of the EVA polymer to the resin is greater than about 1:1.

63. (withdrawn) The article of claim 62 wherein the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

64. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.5:1 and the adhesive has a softening point less than the 85°C.

65. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 62 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.8:1.

66. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 62 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer comprises a blend of a first polymer having about 15 to 22 wt% vinyl acetate and a second polymer having about 23 to 30 wt% vinyl acetate.

67. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 62 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer has a vinyl acetate content of about 25 to 35 wt% vinyl acetate and the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer is present in the adhesive at a weight ratio polymer to resin of at least 2:1.

68. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 62 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer is present in an amount of about 60 to 85 wt%.

69. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 68 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer has a melt index greater than 2700 gm-10 min⁻¹.

70. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 68 wherein the resin is present in the adhesive in an amount of 20 to 40 wt%.

71. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 62 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer comprises a blend of a first EVA and a second EVA wherein the first EVA has a MI different than the second EVA.

72. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 62 wherein the adhesive consists essentially of 62 to 75 wt% of an ethylene vinyl acetate polymer having a melt index of about 2500 to 3000 gm-10 min⁻¹ and about 25 to 50 wt% of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than about 125°C; wherein the weight ratio of the EVA polymer to the resin is greater than about 1:1 and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 85°C.

73. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 62 wherein the adhesive has a viscosity of 4000 to 8000 cP at 150°C.

74. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 62 wherein the film comprises a polymer selected from a polyvinyl chloride, a polyolefin or mixtures thereof and the non-woven comprises a synthetic fiber.

75. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 62 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer comprises a blend of a first EVA and a second EVA wherein the first EVA has a MI different than the second EVA.

76. (withdrawn) A method of assembling a disposable article comprising the steps:

- (a) assembling a film with a non-woven sheet;
- (b) applying an effective amount of a hot melt construction adhesive to the non-woven sheet to bond the sheet to the film; wherein the construction adhesive comprises:
 - (i) greater than about 40 wt% of an ethylene vinyl acetate polymer having a melt index greater than 1500; and

(ii) an effective amount of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than 120°C; wherein the weight ratio of the EVA polymer to the resin is greater than 1:1 and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 85°C.

77. (withdrawn) The method of claim 76 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.5:1 and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

78. (withdrawn) The method of claim 76 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.8:1.

79. (withdrawn) The method of claim 76 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer comprises a blend of a first polymer having about 15 to 22 wt% vinyl acetate and a second polymer having about 23 to 30 wt% vinyl acetate.

80. (withdrawn) The method of claim 76 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer has a vinyl acetate content of about 25 to 35 wt% vinyl acetate and the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer is present in the adhesive at a weight ratio polymer to resin of at least 2:1.

81. (withdrawn) The method of claim 76 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer is present in an amount of about 60 to 85 wt%.

82. (withdrawn) The method of claim 81 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer has a melt index greater than 2700 gm-10 min⁻¹.

83. (withdrawn) The method of claim 81 wherein the resin is present in the adhesive in an amount of 20 to 40 wt%.

84. (withdrawn) The method of claim 81 wherein the ethylene vinyl acetate polymer comprises a blend of a first EVA and a second EVA wherein the first EVA has a MI different than the second EVA.

85. (withdrawn) The method of claim 76 wherein the adhesive consists essentially of 62 to 80 wt% of an ethylene vinyl acetate polymer having a melt index of about 2500 to 3000 gm-10 min⁻¹ and about 20 to 50 wt% of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than about 120°C; wherein the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

86. (withdrawn) The method of claim 76 wherein the adhesive has a viscosity of 4000 to 8000 cP at 150°C and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 85°C.

87. (withdrawn) The method of claim 76 wherein the film comprises a polymer selected from a polyvinyl chloride, a polyolefin or mixtures thereof and the non-woven comprises a synthetic fiber.

88. (withdrawn) A hot melt adhesive composition comprising:

(a) greater than about 40 wt% of an ethylene/ C₃ to C₁₈ α -olefin polymer composition having a melt index greater than 800 gm-10 min⁻¹; and

(b) about 0.1 to 10 wt% of an ABA block polymer composition having hydrogenated block copolymer;

(c) an effective amount of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than 125°C;

wherein the weight ratio of the polymer composition to the resin is greater than about 1:1.

89. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 88 wherein the block polymer is a hydrogenated block polymer.

90. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 88 wherein the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

91. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 88 wherein the polymer composition has a melt index greater than 950 gm-10 min⁻¹ and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 85°C.

92. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 88 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.5:1.

93. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 88 wherein the weight ratio is greater than 1.8:1.

94. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 88 wherein the tackifying resin has a softening point of less than about 125°C.

95. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 88 wherein the polymer composition comprises a polymer comprising a density of about 0.860 to 0.890 and the resin comprises about 20 to 40 wt% of the adhesive.

96. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 88 wherein polymer comprises a density of about 0.860 to 0.890 and the polymer is present in the adhesive at a weight ratio polymer to resin of at least 2:1.

97. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 88 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer is present in an amount of at least about 60 wt. %.

98. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 97 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer has a melt index greater than 950 gm-10 min⁻¹.

99. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 97 wherein the resin is present in the adhesive in an amount of 20 to 40 wt%.

100. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 88 wherein the ethylene/ α -olefin polymer comprises a blend of a first ethylene/ α -olefin polymer and a second ethylene/ α -olefin polymer wherein the first has a MI different than the second.

101. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 88 wherein the adhesive consists essentially of 37 to 80 wt% of an ethylene/octene polymer having a melt index of about 850 to 1250 gm-10 min⁻¹, about 3 to 6 wt% of the ABA block polymer and about 30 to 50 wt% of a hydrogenated hydrocarbon tackifying resin with a softening point greater than about 125°C; wherein the weight ratio of the polymer to the resin is greater than about 1:1 and the adhesive has a softening point of less than about 95°C.

102. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 88 wherein the adhesive has a viscosity of 2000 cPs to 10⁵ cPs at 150°C.

103. (withdrawn) The adhesive of claim 88 wherein the adhesive has a viscosity of 4300 cPs to 7300 cPs at 150°C.